

The Concord Coalition, a nonpartisan organization devoted to fiscal responsibility, conducted a study of congressional votes pertaining to government spending in the 106th Congress and has ranked Rep. Pete Stark in the 97th percentile of fiscally responsible Members of Congress, placing him on their "Fiscal Responsibility Scorecard Honor Roll." The scorecard was calculated from 20 critical votes that affected government spending.

"I am very gratified by the 97th percentile rating granted by the Concord Coalition for my voting record in the 106th Congress," Rep. Stark said. "I believe it is possible for the federal government to provide needed services to the American people while also keeping its financial books in order. I'm honored that the Concord Coalition chose to recognize my commitment to fiscal responsibility."

The Concord Coalition scorecard was based on a number of critical votes in the 106th Congress. These votes included: opposing the marriage penalty elimination; opposing the FAA Reauthorization Report; supporting the Blue Dog Budget Resolution; opposing the FY 2000 Supplemental Appropriations bill; opposing the Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment; opposing the estate tax repeal; supporting debt reduction; opposing the social security tax repeal; opposing a new healthcare entitlement for military retirees and their dependents; and opposing the FY 2001 Mini-Omnibus Appropriations bill.

Janet Ryan, the Western Regional Director for the Concord Coalition, stated: "Fiscal responsibility requires Members of Congress to make some tough choices. The Concord Coalition is pleased to include Congressman Stark on our Scorecard Honor Roll."

Rep. Stark concluded: "Addressing our nation's priorities, such as preserving Social Security, providing a prescription drug benefit for our seniors and protecting and improving Medicare, can go hand in hand with fiscal responsibility. I pledge to continue working toward this goal."